

Old Hastings & Tressell County Councillor Report

- **Bus cuts:** The County Council cabinet has agreed to consult on proposals to end supported bus services in Hastings. Nearly all day-time Monday to Saturday services are run commercially but buses at other times only run with a subsidy to the operator. The County Council is out to save £1.8 million from the £2.3million it spends on supporting bus services. 60% of the bus services under threat are in Hastings. It will mean no 20.21, 22 (the main cross town routes) in the evenings or on Sundays and no 26 or 28 (key routes serving the Conquest hospital) on Sundays. In addition the dial-a-ride service would be cut back from a five-day a week service to a two-day, even though older and disabled residents could have important hospital or doctor's appointments on any day of the week. For the Old Hastings area the 20/20A (town centre-Old Town-Harold Road-Ore Village) would no longer run after 6.00pm Monday to Saturday and not on Sunday at all and the same for the 22/22A which serves Tressell area (town centre-Mount Pleasant Road-Frederick Road-Clifton road- Ore Village). Labour councillors spoke out against these proposals but they were agreed for consultation with a final decision in December. The consultation can be accessed: <https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/economy-transport-environment/organisationsbuschanges>. Residents' organisations particularly may wish to respond.
- **Ofsted: Ofsted has been targeting those education authorities with larger numbers of schools showing performance below the national average for.** East Sussex County Council is one of those and was inspected by Ofsted in June. The final report will become public on 23rd July and Ofsted will expect an action plan to show how performance will be improved in our schools.
- **Overhanging vegetation:** The county's highways contact centre is receiving over 200 calls a week from members of the public about hedges and vegetation over-hanging pavements and roads. The vast majority of these complaints concern private property. Where this affects visibility or public safety the County Council can take action by trying to contact the responsible land owner or even cutting back the offending growth. It is the responsibility of the land owner to maintain their hedges and vegetation so it does not encroach on the public highway.
<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/search/search.aspx?q=hedge+cutting>
- **Pothole funding:** With the pothole epidemic the Government has announced it is releasing £168m for further pothole repairs across the country. The County Council has been awarded £1.443m. This money is earmarked for tackling individual potholes or it might be used for preventative patching during the early autumn, ahead of next winter. This will complement the earlier repair patching as well as our two-year resurfacing programme that is now in full swing. If there are particularly serious potholes that have still not been fixed feel free to contact me or contact
<http://frs.accesseastsussex.org/faultreport/faultIntro.aspx>

- **Dudley Road Parking Suspension:** From 24 July to 2 October Tasker Catchpole will be rebuilding a dangerous boundary wall along Dudley Road on behalf of the County Council. The works will be carried out under a temporary prohibition of waiting at any time between the junction with Harold Road and the footpath by Dudley Infants School (footpath 327 Hastings). Parking suspension will be in phases as the works progress and pedestrians will be asked to use the opposite footpath for the duration of the works.

Cllr Jeremy Birch 01424 425585

If you would prefer not to receive my councillor's report please let me know; otherwise feel free to copy it on to others.